

## News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **CVRD Three-Stream Curbside Collection service to include yard waste and glass collection**

**DUNCAN, BC** - The Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) Board of Directors passed a motion that the Three-Stream Curbside service will include food and yard waste, recycling, garbage and glass collection for all eligible residents in CVRD Electoral Areas when the service is implemented in 2025.

With the implementation of the service, the CVRD will join its member municipalities and other regional districts that already offer three-stream curbside collection to their residents.

“Including yard waste and glass collection in the three-stream service puts waste diversion, accessibility, and convenience at the forefront of the program,” said Aaron Stone, Chair of the Board for the Cowichan Valley Regional District. “Given that curbside collection services currently vary greatly within the region, this decision demonstrates a strong commitment to ensuring that CVRD Electoral Area residents have access to proper waste disposal that aligns with neighbouring jurisdictions and our region’s vision for achieving zero waste goals.”

The Three-Stream Curbside Collection service is an important strategy within the CVRD’s 2018 Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) which provides a vision for managing waste for the next 20 to 30 years with the goal of reducing waste in the Cowichan Valley. This comes as the first step of a multi-stage process to keep organics out of the garbage, eventually resulting in a region-wide organics disposal ban. Following the implementation of three-stream curbside collection for “single-family dwellings”, or those who already receive curbside services in CVRD Electoral Areas, the CVRD will work to ensure that institutions, businesses and residents living in “multi-family dwellings” also have access to three-stream service before the ban takes place. Reducing waste is essential as garbage generated by the region is transported via truck, barge and rail service to Washington State due to limited landfill capacity on Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland.

Starting in 2025, residents will have a comprehensive organics collection service that captures particular organic items (such as meat, fish, grains, bones and dairy) which are unsuitable for most backyard compost systems and currently must be disposed of in the garbage. Residents will also be able to add yard waste in their curbside organics’ totes. Following best practices from WildSafeBC, organics will be collected on a weekly basis and the totes will be equipped with bear-resistant hardware to reduce human-wildlife conflicts.

The service will also include monthly glass packaging pickup, helping to further divert waste destined for the landfill or from being incorrectly mixed in with other recyclables. “While glass is highly recyclable, it is considered a contaminate when it is placed in the existing curbside recycling program due to its breakable nature,” said Leah Berscheid, Environmental Technologist at the CVRD. “Offering a separate curbside glass collection service will ensure that the materials are properly recycled, rather than ending up in the garbage or posing safety and quality issues with mixed recyclables at sorting facilities.”

CVRD staff will continue to work with other jurisdictions to ascertain the best practices for curbside collection and create a robust education package to help residents adjust to the new service before it is implemented in 2025.

To learn more about the future of waste management in the CVRD, read the [2018 Solid Waste Management Plan, the summarized Citizen's Document](#) or visit [the Three-Stream Curbside Collection project page](#) and subscribe for project updates.

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